



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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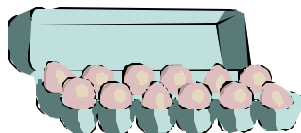
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In California, prices were higher on jumbo eggs, unchanged on the balance. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. The market tone was about steady to instances fully steady. Retail demand was mostly fair to moderate, with fairly good movement noted where scattered feature activity was a factor. Supplies of the larger sizes ranged adequate to close at times, and the balance of sizes were generally adequate to available. Breaking stock offerings were at least adequate, and demand for additional product was limited as dealers gauge market developments closely. Light type hens were ample for the light demand.

NORTH ATLANTIC Prices were unchanged in all areas. The market tone was about steady. Demand was light to moderate, somewhat better where features were a factor. Supplies were about adequate to available. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate for the fair demand. Light type hens were ample for the light demand.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged. The market tone was about steady. Demand into all outlets was light to moderate, better where scattered features were present. Supplies of all sizes were adequate to available.

MIDWEST In all areas prices were unchanged on all sizes. Trade sentiment steady to instances fully steady. Cartoned demand fair to fairly good with scattered feature activity stimulating some additional interest. Food service movement generally moderate. Supplies adequate with the larger sizes in the closest position.

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The market tone steady to instances fully steady. Retail and food service demand fair to fairly good where features are a factor. Supplies mixed, adequate to close on the heavier weights.

SOUTHERN Prices were unchanged in all areas. The market tone was steady. Retail demand was fair to moderate entering the week. Supplies of large eggs were available, and the medium and extra large sizes were about adequate. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in Southern region for the week ending May 19, 2000, was 48.98 cents, unchanged from last week, but 5.84 cents less than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies were adequate to available for the fair to moderate demand. Light type fowl were mostly ample for schedules which ranged from normal to heavy.

WESTERN Prices 4 cents higher on jumbo, unchanged on the balance in California, and unchanged on all sizes in the Northwest. The Pacific region inventory was 1% lower than last Monday with California down 2% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 2%. Retailer demand mainly moderate. Offerings adequate.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST CITIES			
Boston (Brown)	84-86	76-78	55-57
New York	54-56	51-54	45-48
Philadelphia	52-54	50-52	44-45
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	43-44	41.5-43	37-38
Jackson (1)	53-54	50-51	46-47
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	50-62	46-60	42-56
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	40-45	39-44	36-41
Detroit (2)	37-40	36-39	32-35
Major Ohio Cities (2)	38-43	37-41	33-38
Major Wisconsin Cities	41-48	39-46	36-43
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	58-61	54-56	49-50
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	78	71	68

(1) - Prices reported weekly
(2) - Delivered Warehouse
(3) - Reported Invoice prices

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices 4 cents higher on jumbo, unchanged on the other sizes. The California inventory was 2% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand mainly moderate. Offerings easily adequate. Small invoice price 48. No new ads noted in Northern California.

PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	94
EXTRA LARGE	78
LARGE	71
MEDIUM	68

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA/NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	229-289	JUMBO	219-269
EXTRA LARGE	219-279	EXTRA LARGE	189-239
LARGE	199-219	LARGE	179-209
MEDIUM	187-199	MEDIUM	129-179

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending May 26, 2000 will decrease by 3 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending May 19, 2000 were 254,761 cases which was 19 percent above the prior week and 3 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	220,896	33,865	254,761
% change from the prior week.....	+21	+7	+19

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices unchanged.

Trading and demand moderate for the at least adequate offers. Most breakers taking a wait and see attitude before purchasing additional nest run product. Floor stocks also adequate to fully adequate. Schedules full-time to over-time. Trade sentiment steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

RANGE	MOSTLY	
NEST RUN	22-27	24-26
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	10-13	
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were lower compared to the past week. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were sluggish with pricing lower. Schedules were short of capacity, reduced mainly to offset slow demand. Trade sentiment was weak.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 22-MAY-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16	9-11	10.20

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged to lower than a week earlier. Offerings were fully adequate to instances ample for the generally light and unaggressive buyer interest. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Cannerys were usually available. The market tone was barely steady to weak.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 22-MAY-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5.5-15	7-9	8.48
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM May 22, 2000

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO Northeast	NO CENT	SO CENT	SO Atl	5-Area Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	6.4	11.8	6.4	8.2	6.6	39.4
	Change	-1.0	0.7	-0.8	-2.7	-0.9	-11%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	24.8	32.1	10.0	22.7	19.1	108.7
	Change	4.7	-5.3	-2.8	-2.9	1.0	-5%
Large	Curr Wk	35.3	69.0	51.7	68.8	73.9	298.7
	Change	0.0	-20.5	-6.8	-2.3	-9.0	-11%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.6	31.7	13.6	19.2	26.3	105.4
	Change	-1.0	6.8	1.6	-1.7	5.2	12%
Small	Curr Wk	3.4	6.4	2.7	5.1	4.8	22.4
	Change	1.1	-0.5	0.9	2.6	1.1	30%
Misc	Curr Wk	6.3	17.9	6.1	11.7	5.5	47.5
	Change	2.2	1.1	-1.4	0.4	-0.7	3%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	18.3	48.4	19.1	24.4	38.9	149.1
	Change	-2.0	-5.1	-3.3	-3.4	2.3	-7%
Total	Curr Wk	109.1	217.3	109.6	160.1	175.1	771.2
Percent	Change	4%	-9%	-10%	-6%	-1%	-5%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	771.2	-5%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	415.0	2%	39
Total Shell Egg	1186.2	-3%	209

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 08, 2000

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	163	159.9	150.9	109.9
MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING MAY 08, 2000 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.				
GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	127	127	117	77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MAY 19, 2000

CURRENT LOADS	21.00	FUTURE LOADS	12.00	TOTAL LOADS	33.00
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		SE		NE		MW		LOADS				SC		NW		SW		LOADS	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	LOADS
GNR W 1	28.00	—	29.00	30.25	29.50	31.00	10.00	GL W XL	31.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40.00	1.50	
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	27.00	30.00	1.00	GL W LG	31.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.87	3.75	
GL W XL	—	—	—	—	29.50	—	3.00	GL W MD	28.56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35.00	4.50	
GL W LG	—	—	29.50	31.50	29.41	—	10.25	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.00	1.25	
GL W SM	—	—	21.50	23.00	25.00	—	2.25												

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 05/13/00-05/19/00

CURRENT LOADS	116.00	FUTURE LOADS	38.50	TOTAL LOADS	154.50
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		SE		NE		MW		LOADS				SC		NW		SW		LOADS	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	LOADS
GNR W 1	28.38	—	29.63	30.81	29.17	30.83	29.00	GNR W 1	27.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00	
GNR W 2	—	—	—	29.00	27.00	30.00	5.00	GL W XL	30.25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.32	7.50	
GNR W 3	—	29.00	—	—	20.88	22.63	6.00	GL W LG	30.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.42	22.75	
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	39.00	—	—	2.00	GL W MD	28.27	30.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	34.86	15.50	
GL W XL	32.25	34.88	—	36.40	31.63	33.00	17.75	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.17	3.00	
GL W LG	34.00	36.00	31.89	32.50	28.67	—	38.75												
GL W MD	—	—	28.05	29.34	26.50	—	16.50												
GL W SM	—	24.50	23.14	24.79	25.58	—	13.00												
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	24.50	26.38	13.00												

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA 05/07/00 - 05/13/00

Origin State	AZ	AR	CO	IA	MN	MO	NV	NH	OH	OR	TX	UT	WA	TOTAL
N. CA	0	0	0	1,650	0	0	0	90	0	1,825	0	2,582	0	6,147
C. CA	510	0	0	782	0	0	0	0	0	1,320	860	0	660	4,132
S. CA	0	4,200	2,475	16,755	10,003	3,922	414	0	6,330	0	10,040	4,803	900	59,842
TTL STATE	510	4,200	2,475	19,187	10,003	3,922	414	90	6,330	3,145	10,900	7,385	1,560	70,121

SHIPPED TO MILITARY: 0

NEW ENGLAND

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
114-117	65-68	57-60	36-39	14-17

DETROIT EGGS

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
45-48	36-42	34-39	30-35	23-27

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
20-22	18-20	13-15

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
56.71	52.53	42.18

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	5/15/00	5/8/00	5/17/99
PACIFIC COAST	455	461	210
LOS ANGELES	333	336	136

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS PRICES DELIVERED TO RETAILERS, GRADE A STORE DOOR MAY 16, 2000:

	CARTONS	WTG AVG
EX-LARGE	149-155	153.43
LARGE	143-150	148.21
MEDIUM	124-135	132.33
SMALL	105-109	106.01

Receipts from the mainland: 5/8/00-5/12/00
30-dozen cases 4,508

Receipts from the mainland: 5/1/00-5/6/00
30-dozen cases 3,951

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